

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SIMON PAUL DAVIS ET AL.  
Serial No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Filed: JULY 5, 2001  
Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO SWITCHING DEVICES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

July 5, 2001

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims prior to the examination of the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows: (A copy of a marked up version with markings to show changes made is attached.)

3. (Amended) A device according to claim 1, wherein the control slices are located in predetermined timeslots.

(Applicant's Remarks are set forth hereinbelow, starting on the following page.)

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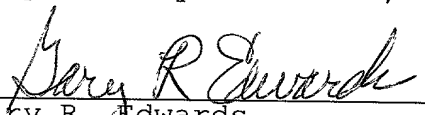
REMARKS

Entry of the amendments to the claims before examination of the application is respectfully requested. These claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Evenson, McKeown, Edwards & Lenahan, P.L.L.C., Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #3036/50059).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Serial No.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

3. (Amended) A device according to claim 1, [or 2,]  
wherein the control slices are located in predetermined  
timeslots.